Assignment 1: ROS 2 Publisher and Subscriber (C++)

Robotics Applications Course

Objective

In this assignment, you will implement two ROS 2 nodes in C++17 (ROS 2 Humble):

- A publisher node that publishes an integer counter at a fixed rate.
- A **subscriber node** that subscribes to the topic, processes the integer to square it, and logs the result.

This assignment will help you understand the ROS 2 publisher—subscriber communication model.

Tasks

- 1. Create a new ROS 2 package for this lab using the ament_cmake build system.
- 2. Inside the package, implement two C++ nodes:
 - A **publisher node** that generates and publishes an integer counter at a fixed frequency (e.g., once per second).
 - A **subscriber node** that receives the published integer, processes it by squaring the value, and prints the result to the console.
- 3. Build the package within your ROS 2 workspace so that both nodes can be executed.
- 4. Launch the publisher and subscriber nodes in separate terminals so they can communicate with each other.
- 5. Verify that the communication is working correctly by checking the list of available topics and observing the data being transmitted on the relevant topic.

Submission Requirements

Each student must submit:

- 1. A public GitHub repository named: ros2-lab1-pubsub-{rollnumber} containing:
 - Source code (publisher.cpp, subscriber.cpp)
 - CMakeLists.txt and package.xml

- A README.md with:
 - ROS 2 version (**Humble**, C++17)
 - Build instructions
 - Run instructions

2. A **PDF report** containing:

- Short description of the objective.
- The GitHub repository link.
- Step-by-step build and run instructions.
- Screenshots of publisher-subscriber communication.
- A brief conclusion (what you learned).

Evaluation Criteria

- Correctness (40%): Publisher and subscriber nodes work as expected.
- Implementation (30%): Proper use of ROS 2 APIs and clean C++ code.
- **Documentation (20%)**: Clear README and report.
- Demonstration (10%): Ability to explain the workflow in report.